

**Nasonville Fire District
2577 Victory Highway
Nasonville, Rhode Island 02830**

**October 18, 2014
Annual Meeting Minutes of the Nasonville Fire District**

Saturday October 18, 2014 at 2:00 P.M.

Meeting location: Nasonville Fire Station, 2577 Victory Highway, Nasonville, Rhode Island.

1. Call to Order.

- a. The Acting District Moderator Attorney Mike Crane called the Annual Meeting to order at 2:08 pm.

2. Reading of the Warrant.

- a. Mr. Crane read the meeting Public Notice and Warrant as it was stated in the Bargain Buyer on Wednesday, October 15, 2014.
- b. A motion was made by Gerry Lapierre to amend the Warrant to reflect that there were two (2) Operating Committee Board Member positions up for election rather than three (3) on the Warrant. The motion was seconded by Joe Raymond. The motion was carried by all public voters present.

3. For the good and welfare of the district.

- a. Nothing was brought forward.

4. Approve the minutes from the previous annual meeting October 19, 2013.

- a. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Bettie Hatzell and seconded by Robert Allard. The motion was carried by all public voters present.

5. Receive the Tax Assessor's Report.

- a. John Mainville read the Tax Assessor's Report. See report. No questions were asked by any of the public voters present.
- b. Robert Allard motioned to accept the Tax Assessor's Report. Paul Wright seconded this motion. All approved the motion and the motion was carried.

6. Receive the Tax Collector's Report.

- a. John Mainville read the Tax Collector's Report. \$327,776.50, plus \$22,812.13 totaling \$350,588.63.
- b. John stated that tax sales were held in conjunction with the town this year. He will be calculating the final tax rate.
- c. Al Boiteau motioned to accept the Tax Collector's Report. Joe Raymond seconded this motion. No further discussion was made on this report. All the voters present carried the motion forward with a vote.

7. Receive the Treasurer's Report.

- a. Ron Lapierre presented the Treasurer's Report. See report.
- b. Norman Dalpe asked why so much has been budgeted for Legal Fees and Ron responded to this question and said more would be addressed during the Chairperson's report. Anne

Chretien asked if there was a limit to how much the Operating Committee could spend without getting consent from the taxpayers. Ron responded that the limit is \$10,000.

- c. Jenn Zuba motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Paul Wright seconded this motion. All the voters present carried the motion forward with a vote.

8. Receive the Chief's Report.

- a. Interim Chief Michael Gingell presented the Annual Chief's Report. Activity for the year, Aid Given and explained it.
- b. Interim Chief also discussed status of the fire station building, apparatus, 75th Anniversary Celebration coming up in 2015, retention, recruiting and training of both the volunteer and per diem staff and next steps to determine what is in the District's best interest going forward in able to stabilize and secure an adequate response to all emergencies within the fire district.
- c. Anne Chretien asked a question in regards to the insurance restrictions which was deferred to the Chairperson.
- d. A motion was made by Al Boiteau to accept the Chief's report. The motion was seconded by Renee Boiteau and was carried forward by the voters present approving the report.

9. Receive the Annual Fire District Board Chairperson's Report.

- a. Janet Raymond gave the Chairperson's annual report and welcomed Michael Gingell as Interim Chief.
- b. Janet Raymond answered the previous question asked by Anne Chretien in regards to insurance restrictions and responded that the deductible per person for the per diem employees is between \$1500 and \$2000. This deductible increases if the employee works more than 24 hours in a week. Work schedules are being monitored to keep the hours less than or equal to 24 in order to keep the insurance rates where they are and not to incur any more expenses.
- c. Gerry Lapierre made a motion to accept the Chair's report. Kathy Mainville seconded the motion. All voters approving the report carried the motion forward.

10. Election of Officers – Receive the slate of officers from the Nominating Committee.

- a. Positions up for election:
 - i. Three-year terms: Operating Committee Board Member: Two positions.
 - ii. One-year terms: Tax Collector, Treasurer, Clerk, Moderator, Tax Assessor: (Three positions), Wardens: (Three positions), Auditor: (Three positions), Nomination Committee (Four positions).
 - iii. Bettie Hatzell read the Nominations Report Slate for the district positions available. Nominations listed as below. Sandy McKay made a motion to accept as read. Paul Wright seconded this report as read. All voters approving the report carried the motion forward.
 - iv. The Moderator asked for any nominations from the floor. No additional nominations were presented from the floor.
 - v. Board member – Robert Allard
 - 1. Motioned approved
 - vi. Board member – Bettie Hatzell
 - 1. Motioned approved.
 - vii. Tax Collector – John Mainville
 - 1. Motioned approved
 - viii. Treasurer – Ron Lapierre
 - 1. Motioned approved

- ix. Clerk – Christine Chretien
 - 1. Motioned approved
- x. Tax Assessor – Barbara Pacheco
 - 1. Motioned approved
- xi. Tax Assessor - Lorraine Dalpe
 - 1. Motioned approved
- xii. Tax Assessor – Jeanne Davis
 - 1. Motioned approved
- xiii. Warden – Al Boiteau
 - 1. Motioned approved
- xiv. Warden – David Mainville
 - 1. Motioned approved
- xv. Warden – Jake Haggerty
 - 1. Motioned approved
- xvi. Auditor – Beverly St. Onge
 - 1. Motioned approved
- xvii. Auditor - vacant
- xviii. Auditor – vacant
- xix. Nomination Committee – Sandy McKay
 - 1. Motioned approved
- xx. Nomination Committee – Kirstin Hatzell
 - 1. Motioned approved
- xxi. Nomination Committee - vacant
- xxii. Nomination Committee - vacant

11. Old Business.

- a. Union Negotiations Update – Committee Chairperson.
Janet Raymond provided an update regarding Union negotiations. The negotiations started in September and there are four (4) more meetings scheduled. Norman Dalpe asked why the Operating Committee was negotiating with the Union without the consent of the taxpayers and why was no challenge presented. Mr. Crane answered the question saying the district does not have a choice of whether or not a Union can be present.

12. New Business.

- a. Report on and Consideration of Capital Improvements
 - i. Conversion of one of the truck bays to office space – discussed need for additional office space for record retention. This additional space would mean relocation of the radio tower.
 - ii. Continuation of construction of addition – discussed addition to accommodate kitchen facilities.
 - iii. Resurfacing of parking lot – parking lot is in poor condition and is possibly the original pavement from when the station was constructed in 1964/1965.
 - iv. Consider and approve painting of fire station exterior - expense of \$7,000. Chairperson proposed that the funds will come out of Capital Improvements and would not increase the taxes paid by the residents. A motion was made by Gerry Lapierre to take the money from reserves to pay for painting the exterior and the motion was seconded by Sandy McKay. All approved the motion and the motion was carried.
- b. Adopt a budget for FY 2015 period from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 – Ron Lapierre reviewed the changes in expenses. Questions were asked by taxpayers about

hose testing, fire equipment and fire gear. Questions were addressed by Interim Chief Gingell. Questions were also asked about where the Chief's salary is accounted for in the budget, what is the Chief's hourly rate of pay and what is being done about permanently filling the Chief's position. Ron Lapierre addressed the questions regarding the budget and rate of pay. Chief's position to be addressed later in the meeting. No further questions were asked about the budget and a motion was made by Jenn Zuba to approve the budget of \$499,730 for FY 2015 and Renee Boiteau seconded the motion. All approved the motion and the motion was carried.

- c. Any business that can be legally addressed – Barbara Pacheco asked a question regarding the status of the memorial bricks that were sold and the Chairperson responded to the question.
13. **Establish a maximum tax levy for FY2015.** The maximum tax levy for FY 2015 is \$364,500. Motion was made by Al Boiteau to accept the maximum tax levy for FY 2015 of \$364,500 and the motion was seconded by Renee Boiteau. All approved the motion and the motion was passed.
14. **Authorize Operating Committee to spend up to \$10K to pay for insurance related deductibles.** Motion made by Bettie Hatzell and seconded by Joe Raymond. All approved the motion and the motion was carried.
15. **Authorize Operating Committee to transfer between line items on the budget at year end.** Motion was made by Joe Raymond and seconded by Paul Wright. All approved the motion and the motion was carried.
16. **Establish a By-Laws Committee (board members and public) to review existing by-laws including the Chief's position and the nominating process.** Volunteers were requested to serve on this new committee. Gerry Lapierre, Joe Raymond, Paul Wright and Anne Chretien volunteered to serve on committee. Bob Allard made a motion to accept the volunteers and establish the committee. Norman Dalpe seconded the motion and the motion passed.
17. **Meeting Adjournment** – Hearing no additional questions or comments, Bettie Hatzell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Gerry Lapierre and the meeting was adjourned at 3:27 PM.

Christine A. Chretien
District Clerk